

April 24, 1975

Based on the recommendation of Counsel Teltser, Commissioner Conlan offered a motion to adopt a "Code of Ethics" for the Commission as follows, seconded by Commissioner Koribanics and unanimously adopted upon roll call:

"WHEREAS, under our democratic form of government public officials and employees should be drawn from all of our society, and citizens who serve in government cannot and should not be expected to be without any personal interest in the decisions and policies of government; citizens who are government officials and employees have a right to private interests of a personal, financial and economic nature; standards of conduct should separate those conflicts of interest which are unavoidable in a free society from those conflicts of interest which are substantial and material, or which bring government into disrepute.

"In view of the foregoing, the NJDWSC does hereby adopt the following Code of Ethical Standards:

1. No officer or employee of the NJDWSC should have any interest, financial or otherwise, direct or indirect, or engage in any business or transaction or professional activity which is in substantial conflict with the proper discharge of his duties in the public interest.
2. No officer or employee of the NJDWSC should engage in any particular business, professional, trade or occupation which is subject to licensing or regulation by a specific agency of State Government without promptly filing notice of such activity with the Executive Commission on Ethical Standards.
3. No officer or employee of the NJDWSC should use or attempt to use his official position to secure unwarranted privileges or advantages for himself or others.
4. No officer or employee of the NJDWSC should act in his official capacity in any matter wherein he has a direct or indirect personal financial interest that might reasonably be expected to impair his objectivity or independence of judgment.
5. No officer or employee of the NJDWSC should undertake any employment or service, whether compensated or not, which might reasonably be expected to impair his objectivity or independence of judgment in the exercise of his official duties.

6. No officer or employee of the NJDWSC should accept any gift, favor, service or other thing of value under circumstances from which it might be reasonably inferred; that such gift, service or other thing of value was given or offered for the purpose of influencing him in the discharge of his official duties.

7. No officer or employee of the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission should knowingly act in a way that might reasonably be expected to create an impression or suspicion among the public having knowledge of his acts that he may be engaged in conduct violative of his trust as an officer or employee of the NJDWSC.

8. No officer or employee of the NJDWSC shall solicit, receive or agree to receive, whether directly or indirectly, any compensation, reward, employment, gift or other thing of value from any source other than the State of New Jersey, for any service, advice, assistance or other matter related to his official duties, except reasonable fees for published works on matters within his official duties and except, in connection therewith, reimbursement of actual expenditures for travel and reasonable subsistence for which no payment or reimbursement is made by the State of New Jersey. This section shall not apply to the solicitation or acceptance of contributions to the campaign of an announced candidate for elective public office.

9. No officer or employee of the NJDWSC shall willfully disclose to any person, whether or not for pecuniary gain, any information not generally available to members of the public which he receives or acquires in the course of and by reason of his official duties. No officer or employee of the NJDWSC shall use for the purpose of pecuniary gain, whether directly or indirectly, any information not generally available to members of the public which he receives or acquires in the course of and by reason of his official duties.

"Violations of the foregoing Code of Ethical Standards promulgated pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 52:L3D-12, et seq., shall be cause for removal, suspension, demotion or other disciplinary action by the State officer or agency having the power of removal or discipline."